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**THE WEST CHATHAM ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**P. O. Box 291**  
**West Chatham, MA 02669**

December 7, 2009

Hand Carried

Mr. Ron Bergstrom, Chairman  
Members, Chatham Board of Selectmen

Dear Chairman Bergstrom and Members of the Board:

The Board of Directors of the West Chatham Association, as we have done so many times in the past, wishes to express its interest in the revision of Chatham's Protective Zoning ByLaw. We also support the ByLaws being written to conform to the Land Use Section of the Long Range Comprehensive Plan and its primary goal, which is "To permit only that growth and development that is consistent with the carrying capacity of Chatham's natural environment in order to maintain the quality of life in our Town. Chatham should retain its small town and seaside resort character and any development should maintain that, not minimize or destroy it. Promote the re-development and reuse of existing developed property rather than the development of vacant land. Bylaws and regulations should be created to ensure that intensity is maintained or minimized – never maximized."

We strongly support the concept of a fully independent zoning bylaw revision committee that reports to the Board of Selectmen and to Town Meeting. We believe membership on this committee should be diverse and include members from each neighborhood – South, West, and North Chatham, Chathamport, and the Old Village. Members should have an understanding of zoning bylaws and should be supportive of Chatham's Master Plan. We also believe that once the committee is established, members should be allowed to make their own decisions about where to begin, what to do, who they want as their chairman, and to set their own timetable. We believe that a narrow focus cannot be productive.

We hope it is not necessary for us to express to you our willingness to participate in any meeting or group that is discussing West Chatham, be it the neighborhood center or any area impacted by zoning bylaws, traffic, safety, preservation, or quality of life issues. The West Chatham Association, since its inception in April 2003, has had at least one representative at every zoning bylaw revision meeting, and usually three representatives. Sometimes that number increased close to 100 or more, depending on the subject and the impact on residents. A few examples were the meeting on workforce housing on Main

Street at Barn Hill Road; the discussion of Site Plan Review in regard to Dunkin' Donuts; several meetings with former consultant John Connery in discussions about what citizens envisioned for West Chatham; and as long ago as meetings regarding Job Lot.

While we are pleased that the West Chatham Village and Business Association shares and supports many of the issues that we have been recommending for years, there are some differences in our respective visions for West Chatham. Therefore, we look forward to independent representation of and participation in town issues and activities, particularly as they impact West Chatham.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DPS Burns", written over the printed name.

David E. Burns, M.D.  
For the Board of Directors

cc: Members, Selectmen's Subcommittee on Zoning ByLaw Revision